

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT		BPA NO.	1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE 1	OF PAGES 12		
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 1		3. EFFECTIVE DATE See block 16c		4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.		5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)	
6. ISSUED BY CODE Reg. Office of Acquisition & Assistance USAID/India, Department of State 9000 New Delhi Place Washington D.C. 20521-9000 Fax: +90-11-24198390/8612/8454		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) Same as block 6 CODE					
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code) To all Offerors/Bidders		(X)		9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. 386-06-005			
		X		9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) April 18, 2006			
				10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.			
				10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)			
CODE		FACILITY CODE					
11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS							
<input type="checkbox"/> The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers <input type="checkbox"/> is extended, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods: (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning _____ copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.							
12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)							
13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.							
(X)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.						
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).						
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:						
	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)						
E. IMPORTANT: Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> is not, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is required to sign this document and return <u>one</u> copies to the issuing office.							
14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.) The purpose of this modification is to amend the RFA in the manner specified on the subsequent pages.							
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.							
15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) Marcus A. Johnson, Jr. Regional Agreement Officer					
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR (Signature of person authorized to sign)		15C. DATE SIGNED		16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY (Signature of Contracting Officer)		16C. DATE SIGNED	

1. The attached Budget Guidance (Annexure “A”) is to be included on page 44 of the RFA.
2. Page 23 - Under 1.1 para 2 third last line spelling of 'districts' to be corrected.
3. Page 24 - Add the following lines at the end of 1.3 - 'USAID is supporting the third round of National Family Health Survey in collaboration with other donors. For the first time, it will provide state specific community based HIV prevalence data for general population in six high prevalence states and Uttar Pradesh as well as an overall national average.'
4. Page 30 Para 2 - change spelling of complimentary to 'complementary'.
5. Page 40 Para 1 first line - after Andhra Pradesh add 'Union Territory of Pondicherry'.
6. Page 40 at the end of the page add the following as a new paragraph:-

'There are approximately 27 million pregnancies annually in India. Surveillance data suggest that approximately 189,000 of these are in HIV-infected women and 56,000 children will be infected annually in the absence of an effective PMTCT program. UNICEF, the lead technical agency in PMTCT, estimates that only 4 percent of HIV-infected pregnant women received ART in 2004. Contributing to this low uptake are the large proportion of women who deliver outside of institutions, the limited engagement of the private sector in programs and the slow implementation of the national program for Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT). Since almost 50 percent of women deliver in the private sector, the USAID will support direct implementation at a small number of PMTCT sites in the private sector.'
7. Page 41 in the table first row add 'Union Territory of Pondicherry' after Andhra Pradesh and in the second row replace do with 'same as above'.
8. Please find attached Indicative List of Internal Program Monitoring Indicators to be added to the RFA as an Annexure “B”.
9. Attached as Annexure “C” is added with USAID responses to questions received in context to the RFA.

Annexure “A”

5. BUDGET GUIDANCE:

The overall budget for this RFA including all the components is estimated to be \$ 49.0 Million over five years including an option for \$ 4 Million for selected activities in Uttar Pradesh which will be subject to availability of those funds. The following is the suggested break up into different components:

COMPONENT I (Five year amount: \$ 22.0 Million)

The total annual budget is estimated for this award is \$ 4.4 Million. It is expected that out of this, about 90 % will be spent in Karnataka and the remainder (10%) in Andhra Pradesh. Within Karnataka, it is expected that 50-60 % will be spent on care and support, 25-30 % on rural prevention and about 15% on system strengthening.

COMPONENT II (Five year amount: \$ 15.0 Million)

The annual budget for this award is estimated to be \$ 3.0 Million. Out of this, the Karnataka private sector is estimated at 33%, Andhra Pradesh private sector at about 10-15 %, TA is estimated at 10-15%, 20% each for PPTCT and Ports activities.

COMPONENT III (Five year amount \$ 8.0 Million)

The annual budget for this award is estimated to be \$ 1.6 Million. Out of this, three-fourths (75%) of the amount is estimated to be spent on Technical Assistance (TA) and Capacity building. About ten percent (10%) is estimated to be spent on support to Delhi based NGOs and the rest on communications and engendering bold leadership.

Note: All the above mentioned are estimated figures.

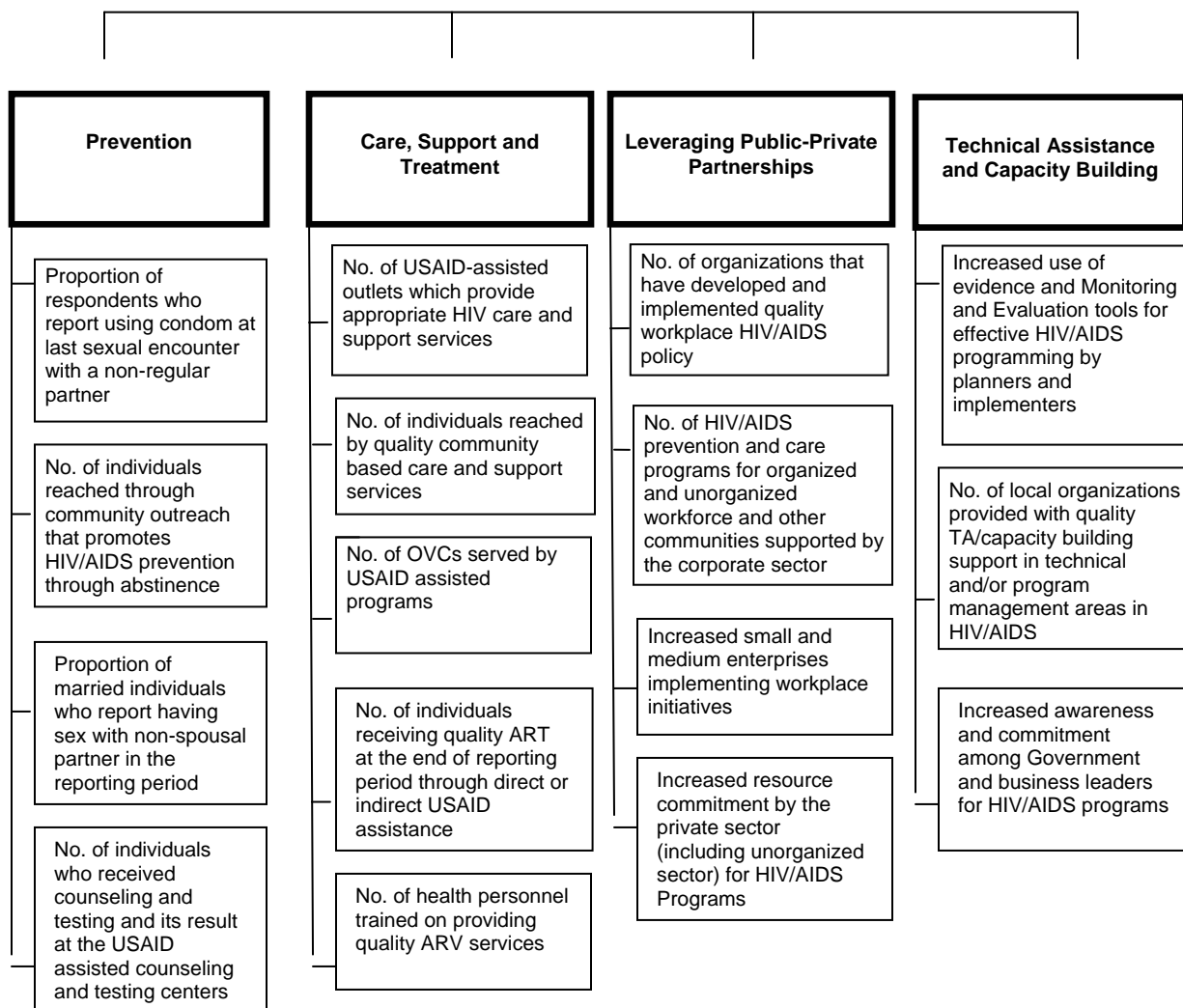
Note: *USAID does not intend to support purchase of ARVs and condoms through this RFA. The applicants should make linkages to get them from other sources including the Government and private sources.*

Ordinarily, USAID would not encourage use of funds from this RFA for procuring drugs for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Opportunistic Infections (OIs). Offerors must procure such items using funding from other donors, make appropriate linkages, or leverage them from private sector. All options must be explored to procure these drugs. Only after all options have been exhausted, a limited amount of funds may be considered by USAID financing, subject to U.S. Government/PEPFAR guidelines, for which budget adjustment will be required. In short, USAID is to be considered as a solution of last resort.

Regarding purchase of VCT kits, USAID has a more flexible approach. If Offerors are not able to procure kits from other sources, they may be purchased from the market, again subject to USG/PEPFAR guidelines.

Indicative List of Internal Program Monitoring Indicators

IR: Increased Use of Effective HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support Services through Indian Institutions



Annexure “C” - Questions from Interested Parties and the USAID response under RFA #386-06-005.

- 1) Are all of the various certifications, assurances, past performance references and Evidence of Responsibility statements, etc., described on pages 45-65 of the RFA required only of prime contractors, or also of all sub-contractors and implementing partners? In particular, are they required of all NGO or CBO implementing partners with whom a prime may wish to partner for program or service delivery?

USAID Response: The prime only though many of the condition of the certification or assurances flow down to the subcontractor or subgrantees. It is interested of proposers to provide past performance information on all named subcontractors and subgrantees that are cited as having a material role in the implementation of the proposed program. USAID may also consider the past performance sources for subcontractors and subgrantees beyond those provided. In the instances of joint ventures or consortia all partner must sign the requisite forms.

- 2) Under the “Cost Application Format” section of the RFA (starting on page 13), items A to H seem to apply only the to the cost application, but the subsequent items (I to S) seem to apply to the entire submission. Please clarify.

USAID Response: Yes, your understanding is correct.

- 3) Related to 2) above, under L.1.a), do the 6 attachments apply to the technical application only, the cost application only, or both? And is the 2 MB limit per attachment or for the total of all attachments?

USAID Response: L.1 a) states that each email sent to USAID should not consist of more than 6 attachments and should be off no more than 2MB, when combined in a single email. There is no limit on the number of emails that may be sent.

- 4) On page 13, under Cost Application Format, A., a copy of the program description is asked for. Please clarify what the program description is. Is this the entire technical application, or some portion of it?

USAID Response: Only the portion that describes the proposed program and would compose Attachment in the result grant award document.

- 5) Can the sources for cost share can come from any geographic part of India provided they support HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care? If that is not the case, please clarify the cost share parameters.

USAID Response: Yes.

- 6) Please provide additional guidance on the statement concerning minimizing or eliminating overall administrative and overhead costs (page 19). As NICRAs are negotiated with and approved by USAID, we assume that USAID/India is not asking contractors to reduce or eliminate the indirect cost charges allowed by the NICRAs, but rather that the intention is to reduce other support costs. Please confirm.

USAID Response: USAID is not specifically requiring or asking for reduction in approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) or the indirect cost rate established as a result of an independent audit. However the cost evaluation is predisposed to take into favorable consideration any and all measures that represent greater cost efficiency without adversely affecting the program goals. Citing specific (past or present known) examples would competitively disadvantage potential offers.

- 7) Please clarify the statement regarding overseas allowances. Is there any intention not to support overseas allowances from expatriate staff (key personnel or non-key personnel), or for international staff providing short-term technical assistance?

USAID Response: No.

- 8) For Component 1: Please provide additional guidance concerning the intensity and scope of the Andhra Pradesh program as compared to the Karnataka Program, e.g. geographic coverage, priority target groups, at what level linkages are desired, and so forth. Please provide guidance on the relative level of effort and budgetary amount expected for Andhra Pradesh vis-à-vis Karnataka.

USAID Response: AP is relatively minor in comparison to Karnataka.

- 9) Regarding 2.2.3 Treatment, it is clear that procurement of ARVs is not part of this RFA, but that the applicant is expected to “leverage” ARVs from other sources. Can USAID provide any additional guidance about the level of effort expected of the bidder in terms of capacity building for scale-up of ARVs, vis-à-vis other components?

USAID Response: The level of effort will depend on the local situation, ongoing efforts and level of local capacity for scale up of ARVs. USAID has no specific preconception of the matter with regards to scale.

- 10) Please clarify the application requirements and budgeting concerning the additional component for Uttar Pradesh:
- a) With regard to budgeting: on page 28 of the RFA, the second paragraph states on the one hand that the funds available for the plan for evidence collection and a proposed response “will not exceed \$4 million and would be provided....in addition to the amount stated for Component 1 within the cover letter.” The next sentence seems to suggest the opposite: “However, within the amount stated for Component 1 in the Cover Letter applicants should present a separate plan with a realistic budget for evidence collection and implementation of a highly targeted prevention program in “hotspots” of selected districts of Uttar Pradesh.” Please clarify, and please confirm if the \$4 million pending for U.P. will cover the budget for evidence collection and the implementation of the proposed effort, or whether the budget for evidence collection in UP is to be included within the \$22 million allotted for Component 1, or whether some other budgetary division is envisioned.

USAID Response: Yes, the \$4 million will cover the budget for evidence collection and the implementation of the proposed effort in U.P. The \$4 million budget for activities in U.P. is optional and separate (above) from the \$22 million for Component 1. The \$4 million will not start any earlier than the 13th month (2nd year) of the award, therefore offeror should compose a 4 year program for any U.P. activity. As this date USAID has not secured the \$4 million in additional financing for the activities in U.P. though we are hopeful.

- b) Is the plan for evidence collection and plan for proposed response in UP to be included within the 30 pages allotted per component for the technical proposal, or is it to be presented in a separate plan or Appendix?

USAID Response: The technical proposal UP activities must be presented in a separate appendix of no more than 30 pages.

- c) How should the separate budget for the UP piece be presented? Please confirm if a 5 year budget is required or only a budget for evidence collection? Would a summary budget be acceptable, e.g. without specific details on activity costs?

USAID Response: The budget is required for both the evidence collection as well as the implementation of highly targeted program in U.P. Detailed budget is required for evidence collection phase and a relatively more general budget for the balance. The budget is required for a 4 year program.

- 11) On page 13 the RFA states “the application should be prepared according to the structural format set forth below.” What follows is the Cost Application Format only. Does that mean that there is no specific Technical Application Format which applicants need to adhere to, other than the guidance given between pages 17-20 in the RFA? Please explain.

USAID Response: Yes your understanding is correct. However, the page limit is given under “Preparation Guidelines”

- 12) Is there a specific format for technical proposal?

USAID Response: Yes. See question 22 below.

- 13) On page 14 under procurement plan for commodities, could you please define what is included in “other health commodities?”

USAID Response: Any health related equipment or commodity. It is presented more or less as a “catch-all” or general phrase.

- 14) (a) On page 17 first paragraph, it states “To facilitate the review of applications, applicants should organize the narrative sections of their applications in the same order as the selection criteria.” Does this mean, that the applicant should organize the narrative sections of their application beginning from the top of page 17 and continuing through page 20, as described in the order below, not including sub-points?

Section B-Selection Criteria:

1. Organization’s technical resources and expertise in HIV/AIDS (para 4);
2. Effective coordination between the three program components described in this RFA (para 6)

Mandatory Criteria:

1. Cost sharing
2. Gender

Technical Evaluation:

1. Qualifications of key personnel
2. Technical Approach
3. Past performance

Cost Evaluation:

1. Effectiveness of proposed cost control structure
2. Reasonableness of proposed labor cost and structure

3. Cost efficiency and Other Direct Costs
4. Amount of cost-sharing, matching arrangements or market value of in-kind contributions proposed
5. Reasonableness of overall proposed Total Estimated Cost

USAID Response: That is the format that the evaluation teams will follow however the format or structure of the proposal does not have to be specifically in that format. It must however cover or address all these significant elements in a logical manner so that the USAID evaluator is able to assess these factors.

(b) In this outline, there appears to be some repetition between Mandatory Criteria #1, **cost sharing** and Cost Evaluation #4, **amount of cost sharing**...Please distinguish what should be included in each of these two criterion in the narrative section.

USAID Response: The mandatory criteria are those factor that the Agreement Officer renders a “yes” or “no” determination on as to whether it is met. In this instance the question is simple – does the proposal contain cost sharing? The second is an evaluation factor seeking to assess how much cost-sharing is offered. USAID will also assess the relevancy to the offerors proposed programs of the non-USAID cost sharing or in-kind contribution cited.

15) On page 17 last sentence, “In-kind Contribution” means the donation of tangible property (such as computers, medical and lab equipment, pharmaceuticals, technology transfer, but excluding real) or service (such as rent, utilities, etc.) provided by the recipient to the Government.” Could you clarify the terms “real” and “Government” in this sentence?

USAID Response: “Real” means land. “Government” means the U.S. Federal Government.

16) On page 28 the RFA states “Recognizing the complexity of the epidemic in such a large and heterogeneous population, the applicant of Component 1 will also be required to submit a plan for evidence collection and a proposed response for a highly targeted prevention program in hotspots of high burden districts of the state of Uttar Pradesh” We request more clarity of this part of the project. What is the agreed definition of ‘hotspot’? How is this part of the project expected to tie into the larger project as a whole?

USAID Response: ‘Hotspot’ implies well or loosely defined recognizable geographic areas where such activities happen which have relatively high chances of transmission of HIV virus due to prevailing high risk environment. Examples of these include but are not limited to – trucking halt points, presence of sex workers in significant numbers, mobile populations, cruising points of MSMs and IDUs.

This is an optional activity as mentioned in the RFA subject to availability of funds. This could form a part of USAID support to a highly vulnerable state.

17. On page 19 it states, “The offeror must provide the information requested above for past performance evaluation or affirmatively state that it possesses no relevant directly related or similar past performance experience.” Please provide guidance on the required number of Past Performance Reference Forms to be submitted?

USAID Response: Offerors must provide past performance source information on the 10 most recent award received by the prime or all JV partners/Consortia members. Also, subcontracts or subgrants awarded that offerors (proposed prime or by any joint venture partner or consortia member) think may support their application should be provided.

18. On page 13, it states that the maximum page limit for the technical proposal is 30 pages, for each of the three components. Are the Executive Summary, Table of Contents, Appendices etc., excluded from the 30 page limit?

USAID Response: Yes.

19. On page 17, "the Applicant is strongly advised to seek specific guidance directly from the Regional Agreement Officer prior to submission." Can you please clarify this statement?

USAID Response: It concern offers that may be proposed joint-ventures or consortia.

20. There is no reference to the personnel document requirements in the instructions. Can you please offer guidance on the types of documents needed for each key personnel position?

USAID Response: I suggest a position description and a management chart displaying where management, technical, and professional position are in the hierarchy.

21. Would the Government be able to provide a breakdown by states for each of the technical components?

USAID Response: See Annexure A.

Would the Government be willing to give the names of the "four predetermined NGOs implementing HIV/AIDS prevention and care and support programs in Delhi", as referenced on page 41?

USAID Response: No.

22. Page 13 of the RFA states that "The maximum page limit for the technical proposal is 30 pages, for each of the three components". Page 15 indicates what should be included on the title page. Please clarify what is included in the 30 pages. Do items such as the cover page, title page, table of contents, and annexes, such as CVs, skills matrix, & past performance references count toward the 30 pages?

USAID Response: None of what you cite counts toward the 30 page limit. The following list of items does not count toward the page limit.

Executive Summary (provided it is 3 pages or less.)

Cover page (provided no more than 1 page)

Title page (provide no more than 1 page)

Table of contents (provided 3 pages or less)

Technical proposal (no more than 30 pages for each Component)

Annexes (no page limit except for the Mobilization Plan which is limited to no more than 8 pages)

CVs (provided 3 pages or less),

Skills Matrix (no page limit)

Past performance references, the PPR short form (provided each reference is no more than 2 pages.)

23. Page 18 states that the Mobilization plan does not count within the page limit for the technical proposal, but should not be over 8 pages. Please confirm that it is acceptable to include the Mobilization Plan in an annex, and reference it in the text.

USAID Response: See above response.

24. Page 53 the RFA asks for a list, to be included in the cost application, of the 10 most current U.S. Government or privately-funded contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, etc. and the name, address, and telephone number of the Contract/Agreement Officer of other contact person.

USAID Response: It is part of the Technical Application not Cost application package.

25. Page 19 of the RFA, in the Technical Evaluation section, states that the offeror's past performance will be evaluated by the US Government. However, contact information for contracts, grants, etc. is not requested in the technical application.

--Are past performance references also required in the technical application?

--If so, are they excluded from the 30-page limit?

--If PPRs are required in the technical application, may we use the PPR short-form?

USAID Response: The PPRs are for review by the technical evaluators. The PPR short form is required and is not counted in the 30 page limit. The Agreement Officer may also use them in the separate responsibility determination that will be done.

26. Page 13 of the RFA states that "A copy of the program description that was detailed in the applicant's program description, on a 3 1/2" diskette, CD or email attachment(s), formatted in Word97, Word 2003, or compatible software application". Please clarify what you want. Do you want a copy of the program description from the technical application? Please clarify.

USAID Response: Yes, a copy of the (up to) 30-page, per Component, technical proposal only.

27. In the interests of a level playing field for all bidders, can the mission please provide the names of the 4 NGOs currently being supported by FHI as well as information on them and the activities financed by USAID/FHI?

USAID Response: No. The 'playing field' is level without it.

28. Can the mission please provide budget details for past support to the 4 NGOs? Or would the mission prefer that all bidders use a 'plug' amount for this financial support?

USAID Response: See Annexure A. in this Amendment.

29. We also require confirmation on which of the Assurances for Non-Construction Programs indicated on Standard Form 424B (Rev.7/97) are applicable under this RFA and are considered applicable to foreign institutions.

USAID Response: It is applicable to all applicants, regardless of nationality. Having said that, not all blocks are relevant to all applicants. If a block is not relevant because an applicant is a non-US based entity, then do not complete the block.

30. Please confirm if there are any additional applicable external audit provisions under this RFA or USAID policies for applicants.

USAID Response: This is a very broad question. Fundamentally USAID requires an annual independent (read external) audit of its recipients.

31. Could you please confirm if a letter of transmittal included in the application will sufficiently fulfill the requirement for written notification of receipt of the RFA or if an additional letter is required before application submission?

USAID Response: A transmittal letter in the application is sufficient.

32. Could you please clarify the geographical location for the Capacity Building activity outlined on page 41? The current location reads "Do."

USAID Response: "Do." means "ditto" or "same as above".

33. For organizations bidding on a single component, what is the evaluation criteria for each section (e.g. technical, personnel, program management, institutional capability)?

USAID Response: Same evaluation factors for all three though the context or nature of the activity varies

34. Will electronic confirmation of email submissions be issued from IndiaRCO@usaid.gov?

USAID Response: Yes, if requested.

35. Please provide further details on the USAID HIV/AIDS India Program regarding Grants Notice 386-06-005 intended for India.

a) Is there a matching requirement?

USAID Response: Yes, some amount of cost sharing, matching arrangement or in-kind contribution is required. The exact percentage or amount is not set by USAID.

b) Any restriction on participation of Faith based group or Non-Government Organization?

USAID Response: None.

c) Is this a one year project? Yearly - Three Years? Or Yearly - Five Years?

USAID Response: Up to five years.